EXHIBIT I

FILED ELECTRONICALLY

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

10/650,603

Confirmation No. 8329

Applicant Filed

David H. BurkettAugust 28, 2003

Art Unit

: 3726

Examiner

: John C. Hong

Title

WIRE JOINT AND METHOD

Docket No.:

: ACS 75758 (G3564USD1)

Customer No.

: 24201

Date

: November 29, 2007

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(b)

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Petition requesting that the application be revived on the grounds of unintentional delay under 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(b) is responsive to the Notice of Abandonment mailed November 5, 2007.

The prosecution in the present application is extensive and the entire prosecution history need not be presented in order to provide evidence of the unintentional delay required for the present petition. Notably, after a final Office action and Pre-Appeal Brief was filed, the Office issued a "Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review" which is attached hereto as Exhibit A. The Notice indicated that the Office would reopen prosecution and withdraw the Office action. Further, a new Office action would be forthcoming. An Office action was mailed June 8, 2006 (Exhibit B) in which all of the pending claims were rejected. Thereafter, a Response was timely filed on September 12, 2006 (Exhibit C).

A final Office action was mailed November 27, 2006 (Exhibit D). Thereafter, Applicant timely filed electronically a Notice of Appeal on February 27, 2007 (Exhibit D). An Appeal Brief was not filed in the application.

The attorney handling the present application, John V. Hanley, Esq., left the firm in about August 2007 (after 15 years of working with the present firm), and his secretary Kerry Tusczynski also left at the same time. The undersigned attorney has taken over prosecution of the application. Upon inquiry, Mr. Hanley does not recall why an Appeal Brief was not filed. Since an Appeal Brief was not filed, the application became abandoned on May 27, 2007. A Notice of Abandonment was mailed November 5, 2007 (Exhibit F).

Our law firm has an electronic docketing system that properly docketed the due dates for the Notice of Appeal and the filing of the Appeal Brief. The only plausible explanation is that the secretary, Ms. Tusczynski, looked in the file, saw the Pre-Appeal Brief that was filed April 27, 2006, and misunderstood that to be the Appeal Brief. Accordingly, it is believed that Ms. Tusczynski then authorized the Docketing Department to clear the due date for the filing of the Appeal Brief. The result being that the Appeal Brief was not filed and the application became abandoned when no Response was filed to the final Office action (Exhibit D).

The undersigned attorney became aware that the Appeal Brief was not filed as of about October 30, 2007. On November 8, 2007, the undersigned attorney called Examiner Hong and left a voicemail questioning whether the present application had become abandoned. The Examiner called back the same day and indicated that the Notice of Abandonment had been mailed November 5, 2007. Thereafter, the Assignee was informed and this Petition to Revive was authorized.

The entire delay in filing the required Appeal Brief from the due date for the Appeal Brief until the filing of this Petition was unintentional.

The invention set forth in the present application is of substantial importance to the Applicant. It is respectfully requested that this Petition to revive the application on the grounds of unintentional delay be granted.

The petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(m) in the amount of \$1,540 is being submitted herewith. Please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 06-2425.

Respectfully submitted,

JON

FULWIDER PATTON LLP

By: /John S. Nagy/

John S. Nagy

Registration No. 30,664

JSN:jeb Enclosures

Howard Hughes Center 6060 Center Drive, Tenth Floor Los Angeles, CA 90045

Telephone: (310) 824-5555 Facsimile: (310) 824-9696

Customer No. 24201

206456.1

EXHIBIT A

Application Numb	Application/Control No.	App int(s)/Patent under Reconination
	10/650,603	BURKETT, DAVID H.
		Art Unit
	Hong, John	3726
Document Code - AP.PRE	.DEC	

Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review



TL:- :-	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	A. H D.	A I D	! - f D 1	£	filed 4/27/06.
I DIC IC	IN PACHONCA	TO TOO Pro.	-Annası Kr	IDT RACIIDEL	TOT HOVIDW	THEO ALLETTING

This is in response to the Pre-Appeal Brief Rec	uest for Review filed <u>4/27/06</u> .
 Improper Request – The Request is reason(s): 	improper and a conference will not be held for the following
☐ The request does not include reason	filed concurrent with the Pre-Appeal Brief Request. ons why a review is appropriate. d with the Pre-Appeal Brief request.
	tues to run from the receipt date of the Notice of Appeal or from tion, if no Notice of Appeal has been received.
held. The application remains under appear is required to submit an appeal brief in according will be reset to be one month from manuning from the receipt of the notice of approximately.	Is and Interferences – A Pre-Appeal Brief conference has been al because there is at least one actual issue for appeal. Applicant fordance with 37 CFR 41.37. The time period for filing an appeal ailing this decision, or the balance of the two-month time period peal, whichever is greater. Further, the time period for filing of the 136 based upon the mail date of this decision or the receipt date
The panel has determined the stack Claim(s) allowed: Claim(s) objected to: Claim(s) rejected: Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration	
	ce has been held. The rejection is withdrawn and a Notice of he merits remains closed. No further action is required by
4. Reopen Prosecution – A conference action will be mailed. No further action is r	e has been held. The rejection is withdrawn and a new Office equired by applicant at this time.
All participants:	4
(1) <u>Dave Bryant</u> . (2) <u>Steve Garbe</u> .	(3) <u>John Hong</u> .
(2) Steve Garbe.	(4)

EXHIBIT B



WIDER, STOR . . UNITED STATES POENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



JUN 12 2006

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
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RECEIVED

BY DOCKET DEP APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. CONFIRMATION NO.

10/650,603

08/28/2003

David H. Burkett

ACS 65356 (1747D)

8329

PAPER NUMBER

24201

7590

EXAMINER

FULWIDER PATTON

06/08/2006

HONG, JOHN C

6060 CENTER DRIVE 10TH FLOOR

ŁOS ANGELES, CA 90045

ART UNIT 3726

DATE MAILED: 06/08/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Appliaction II		Applicant/a)	····
	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
Office Action Summers	10/650,603	**000000	BURKETT, DAVID) Н.
Office Action Summary	Examiner		Art Unit	
	John C. Hong		3726	
The MAILING DATE of this communication app Period for Reply	ears on the cover she	et with the c	orrespondence ad	aress
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DA - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period v Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	ATE OF THIS COMM 36(a). In no event, however, n vill apply and will expire SIX (6 , cause the application to beco	IUNICATION may a reply be times) MONTHS from the ABANDONEI	I. tely filed the mailing date of this or (35 U.S.C. § 133).	
Status				
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 A/2 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This 3) Since this application is in condition for alloware closed in accordance with the practice under EDisposition of Claims	action is non-final.	•		e merits is
4)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-15,18 and 19</u> is/are pending in the	application.			
4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdraw 5) \[Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) \[Claim(s) \frac{1-15,18,19}{2} is/are rejected. 7) \[Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) \[Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or other subjects of the content of the cont	wn from consideration			
Application Papers				
9) The specification is objected to by the Examine 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) acc Applicant may not request that any objection to the Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correct 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Ex	epted or b) objected or by objected or by objected drawing (s) be held in a drawing if the drawing if the drawing or by objected if the drawing or by objected or by objected in the drawing or by objected or by object	beyance. Seawing(s) is ob	e 37 CFR 1.85(a). jected to. See 37 C	
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119				
 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority document 2. Certified copies of the priority document 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority application from the International Bureat * See the attached detailed Office action for a list 	ts have been received ts have been received ority documents have u (PCT Rule 17.2(a))	d. d in Applicat been receiv	ion No ed in this Nationa	l Stage
Attachment(s)				
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 Paper No(s)/Mail Date S. Patent and Trademark Office	Pap		/ (PTO-413) late Patent Application (PT	⁻ O-152)

Art Unit: 3726

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is in response to the Pre-Appeal brief Request for review filed 4/27/08, the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- 3. Claims 1,4-6,9,12,13 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gambale et al. (U.S. Patent 5031636).

Gambale et al. disclose: Regarding Claims 1 and 4-6, a process for forming a guide wire for use in a medical procedure, comprising: forming a male end (36) at an extremity of a first elongated member formed of a first continuous material; forming a female end (26) at an extremity of a second elongated member, the second elongated member and the female end being formed of a second continuous material; and permanently securing (crimping; col. 7, lines 42-44) the male end of the first elongated member within the female end of the second elongated member (Fig. 2-4); Regarding Claim(s) 9,12,13 and 18, a guide wire for use in a medical procedure, comprising: a first elongated member having an extremity and a male end formed at the extremity, the first elongated member formed of a first continuous material; a second elongated member including a second extremity, the second extremity of the second elongated member including a female end, the second elongated member and

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the female end being formed of a second continuous material; wherein the male end is permanently secured (crimping; col. 7, lines 42-44) within the female end of a second elongated member (Fig. 2-4).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 5. Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gambale et al. in view of Abrams et al. (U.S. Patent 5341818).

Gambale et al. teach a process for constructing a guidewire; comprising: providing an elongated proximal core portion including a distal extremity and having a male end (36) disposed at the distal extremity, the proximal core portion being formed from a first continuous material including stainless steel, providing a distal core portion including a proximal extremity and having a female end (26) with a predetermined depth disposed at the proximal extremity, the distal core portion and female end being formed from a second continuous material; permanently securing (crimping; col. 7, lines 42-44) the male end within the female end; and disposing the flexible body member about the distal core portion (Fig. 2-4).

Gambale et al. fail to teach the distal core portion and female end being formed from a second continuous material including a nickel-titanium alloy.

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Abrams et al. teach the distal core portion and female end being formed from a second continuous material including a nickel-titanium alloy (col. 4, lines 25-30).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilizing nickel-titanium alloy for forming the distal core portion and female end, as taught by Abrams et al. on the method of Gambale et al. so as to achieve stress-induced phase transformation.

6. Claims 2,3,7,8,10,11,14,and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gambale et al. .

Gambale et al. teach the limitation except the steps of: forming hole by electrical discharge machine; laser drilling; plunge grinding; securing by soldering, welding, and gluing.

But the steps of: forming hole by electrical discharge machine; laser drilling; plunge grinding; securing by soldering, welding, gluing are well known in the art and it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ the above well known method on the process of Gambale et al. so as to manufacture more flexible guidewire.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John C. Hong whose telephone number is 571-272-4529. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F(07:00-16:30)First Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Bryant can be reached on 571-272-4526. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3726

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

John C. Hong Primary Examiner Art Unit 3726

jh May 25, 2006

EXHIBIT C

Client ID/Matter No.: ACSG 65356 (1747D)

Date Mailed: September 8, 2006 Date Due: September 8, 2006 Applicant: David H. Burkett U.S. Utility Application

Serial No.: 10/650,603 Filing Date.: 8/28/2003

Title: WIRE JOINT AND METHOD

Documents enclosed:

- 1. Transmittal (PTO/SB/21)
- Response

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Mail Room stamp hereon acknowledges receipt of the items indicated above on the date shown.







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FULWIDER • PATTON LLP LOS ANGELES



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ATTORNEYS AT LAW

ATTORNEYS AT LAW 6060 CENTER DRIVE TENTH FLOOR LOS ANGELES. CALIFORNIA 90045

Doc



PTO/SB/21 (09-04) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

			Application Numbe	r	10/650,603
TRANSMITTAL		Filing Date		August 28, 2003	
	FORM		First Named Invent	tor	David H. Burkett
			Art Unit		3726
(to be used for	all correspondence after	initial filing)	Examiner Name		John C. Hong
Total Number of F	Pages in This Submission	10	Attorney Docket No	umber	ACSG 65356
ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)					
Amendment After Affid Extension of Express Aba Information E Certified Cop Document(s	ttached / Reply r Final avits/declaration(s) Time Request Indonment Request Disclosure Statement py of Priority) Disting Parts/	Drawing(s) Licensing-related Papers Petition Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revoc Change of Corresponden Terminal Disclaimer Request for Refund CD, Number of CD(s) Landscape Table Remarks			After Allowance Communication to TC Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Proprietary Information Status Letter Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Postcard
	ly to Missing Parts under CFR 1.52 or 1.53				
	SIGNATU	L RE OF APPLICA	ANT, ATTORNEY, O	R AGENT	Г
Firm Name	FULWIDER PATTO		,,		
Signature	Dry.	4			
Printed name	JOHN V. HANLEY	7	1-11-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1	•	10.000
Date	September 8, 2006			Reg. No.	38,171
	CE	RTIFICATE O	F TRANSMISSIO	N/MAILI	NG
I hereby certify that sufficient postage a the date shown below	I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on				
Signature	Jun	v. K			
Typed or printed na	ame JOHN V. HAI	NLEY V		Date	September 8, 2006

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on September 8, 2006.

John V. Hanley, Registration No. 8,171

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

: 10/650,603

Applicant

: David H. Burkett

Filed

: August 28, 2003

Title

: WIRE JOINT AND METHOD

Art Unit

: 3726

Examiner

: John C. Hong

Docket No.:

: ACSG-65356 (1747D)

Customer No.

: 24201

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office action dated June 8, 2006.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The below listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously presented): A process for forming a guide wire for use in a medical procedure, comprising:

forming a male end at an extremity of a first elongated member formed of a first continuous material;

forming a female end at an extremity of a second elongated member, the second elongated member and the female end being formed of a second continuous material; and permanently securing the male end of the first elongated member within the female end of the second elongated member.

- 2. (Original): The process of claim 1 wherein formation of the female end comprises forming a hole by electrical discharge machining.
- 3. (Original): The process of claim 1 wherein formation of the female end comprises forming a hole by laser drilling.
- 4. (Original): The process of claim 1 wherein the first continuous material is different from the second continuous material.
- 5. (Original): The process of claim 1 wherein the first and second continuous materials comprise a biocompatible material selected from the group consisting of metals, polymers and composites.

- 6. (Original): The process of claim 5 wherein the group consists of stainless steel and Nitinol.
- 7. (Original): The process of claim 1 wherein securing the male end to the female end is selected from the group consisting of soldering, welding and gluing.
- 8. (Original): The process of claim 1 wherein forming the male end comprises plunge grinding.
- 9. (Previously presented): A guide wire for use in a medical procedure, comprising:

a first elongated member having an extremity and a male end formed at the extremity, the first elongated member formed of a first continuous material;

a second elongated member including a second extremity, the second extremity of the second elongated member including a female end, the second elongated member and the female end being formed of a second continuous material;

wherein the male end is permanently secured within the female end of a second elongated member.

- 10. (Previously presented): The guide wire of claim 9 wherein the female end is formed by electrical discharge machining.
- 11. (Previously presented): The guide wire of claim 9 wherein the female end is formed by laser drilling.

- 12. (Previously presented): The guide wire of claim 9 wherein the first and second continuous materials comprise biocompatible materials selected from the group consisting of metals, polymers and composites.
- 13. (Previously presented): The guide wire of claim 12 wherein the group consists of stainless steel and Nitinol.
- 14. (Previously presented): The guide wire of claim 9 wherein the male end is secured to the female end by a bond selected from the group consisting of solder, weld and glue.
- 15. (Previously presented): The guide wire of claim 9 wherein the male end is formed by plunge grinding.
 - 16 17 (Canceled)
 - 18. (Previously presented): A guidewire, comprising:

an elongated proximal core portion having a female end disposed at the distal extremity, the proximal core portion and female end formed from a first continuous material;

a distal core portion having a male end disposed at the proximal extremity; and a flexible body member;

wherein the male end is permanently secured within the female end and the flexible body member is disposed about and secured to the distal core portion.

19. (Previously presented): A process for constructing a guidewire; comprising:

providing an elongated proximal core portion including a distal extremity and having a male end disposed at the distal extremity, the proximal core portion being formed from a first continuous material including stainless steel;

providing a distal core portion including a proximal extremity and having a female end with a predetermined depth disposed at the proximal extremity, the distal core portion and female end being formed from a second continuous material including a nickel-titanium alloy;

permanently securing the male end within the female end; and disposing the flexible body member about the distal core portion.

REMARKS

The June 8, 2006 Office action stated that it was responsive to the Pre-Appeal Brief filed by the Applicants on April 25, 2006. Significantly, in the Pre-Appeal Brief, the Applicants argued that the rejection of claims 1, 4-6, 9, 12, 13, 18 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Abrams et al. (5,341,818) in view of Gambale et al. (5,031,636) was not sufficient to establish a *prima facia* case of obviousness. Moreover, the Applicants argued that the rejection of claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Abrams et al./Gambale et al. was also insufficient to establish a *prima facia* case of obviousness. In support of the Applicant's position, it was argued that there was no motivation to combine the teachings of Abram et al. and Gambale et al. and even if there was sufficient motivation, the cited art did not meet the "permanently" secured/securing limitation recited in each of the pending claims.

In the outstanding Office action, the Examiner again relies upon the Abrams et al. and Gambale et al. references to reject the claims. That is, in the outstanding Office action, claims 1, 4-6, 9, 12, 13 and 18 have been rejected under § 102(b) in view of Gambale et al.; claim 19 was rejected under § 103(a) in view of Gambale et al. and Abrams et al.; and claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14 and 15 were rejected under § 103(a) in view of Gambale et al. Accordingly, in view of the use of the same art to reject the pending claims as that which was overcome by the Applicant's Pre-Appeal Brief, the Applicants respectfully request that the June 8, 2006 Office action be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that the Gambale et al. reference does not teach each and every limitation recited in claims 1, 4-6, 9, 12, 13 and 18 as is required under § 102(b). Clearly, Gambale et al. does not teach permanently securing the male end of the first elongate member within the female end of the second elongate member as is required by method claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-8. Further, Gambale et al. does not teach a male end which is permanently secured within a female end as is recited in

claims 9-15 and 18. In fact, Gambale et al. teaches that "the connection maybe broken easily and quickly should it be desired to separate the guide wire extension 24 from the guide wire 12" (See Column 7, line 23 et seq.). Notably, the section of Gambale et al. upon which the Examiner has relied (Column 7, lines 42-44) does not actually address permanently securing a male end (36) within a female end (26). Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that each of pending independent claims 1, 9 and 18 as well as their respective dependent claims recite subject matter which is allowable over the Gambale et al. reference.

Specifically with regard to the rejection of independent claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gambale et al. in view of Abrams et al., it is again respectfully submitted that there is no motivation to combine the teachings of Gambale et al. and Abrams et al. As previously stated, "The mere fact that references can be combined or modified does not render the resultant combination obvious unless the prior art also suggests the desirability of the combination." Also, the MPEP advises that "a statement that modifications of the prior art to meet the claimed invention would have been 'well within the ordinary skill of the art at the time the invention was made' because references relied upon teach all of the aspects of the claimed invention or individually known in the art is not sufficient to establish a *prima facia* case of obviousness without some objective reason to combine the teachings of the references." Moreover, the MPEP states that "the level of skill in the art can not be relied upon to provide the suggestion to combine the references."

In the present situation, it is respectfully submitted that an objective reason has not been presented to modify Gambale et al. in view of Abrams et al. In the outstanding Office action, the Examiner states that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Gambale et al. with the teachings of Abrams et al. "so as to achieve stress-induced phase transformation." However, since Gambale et al. is not concerned with achieving "stress-induced phase transformation," there is no suggestion or

motivation in Gambale et al. to modify its teachings as suggested by the Examiner. Moreover, Column 4, lines 25-30 of Abrams et al. upon which the Examiner relies as a teaching of a "distal core portion and female end being formed from a second continuous material including a nickel-titanium alloy" does not actually address the recitation in claim 19 of a "distal core portion and female end being formed from a second continuous material." Rather, Abrams et al. describes connector element 13 which is a separate and distinct structure from that of distal portion 12 of the guide wire. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 19 also defines patentable subject matter.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have attempted to completely respond to the rejections set forth in the outstanding Office action. In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully request that the application be reconsidered, the claims allowed and the application passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted, FULWIDER PATTON LLP

Bv:

John V. Hanley

Registration No. 38,171

JVH:kst Howard Hughes Center 6060 Center Drive, Tenth Floor Los Angeles, CA 90045 Telephone: (310) 824-5555

Facsimile: (310) 824-9696

Customer No. 24201

138921.1

EXHIBIT D



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
10/650,603	08/28/2003	David H. Burkett	ACS 65356 (1747D)	8329	
24201 7590 11/27/2006		FULWIDER • PATTON LLP LOS ANGELES NOV 2 9 2006 RECEIVED BY DOCKET DEPT.	EXAM	INER	
FULWIDER PATTON 6060 CENTER DRIVE	HONG, J		HONG, JOHN C		
10TH FLOOR LOS ANGELES, CA 90045			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			3726		
			DATE MAILED: 11/27/200	6	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

EINAL REJECTION

2-MONTH RESPONSE DUE: Jan. 27, 2007
3-MONTH RESPONSE DUE: Feb. 27, 2007
NOTICE OF APPEAL DUE:
(6-MONTH PERIOD ENDS) May 27, 2007

Application No. Applicanties BURKETT, DAVID H.							
## Examiner ## JOHN C. HONG #		Application No.	Applicant(s)				
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Art Unit: 3726

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- 2. Claims 1,4-6,9,12,13 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gambale et al. (U.S. Patent 5031636).

Gambale et al. disclose: **Regarding Claims 1 and 4-6**, a process for forming a guide wire for use in a medical procedure, comprising: forming a male end (36) at an extremity of a first elongated member formed of a first continuous material; forming a female end (26) at an extremity of a second elongated member, the second elongated member and the female end being formed of a second continuous material; and permanently securing (crimping; col. 7, lines 42-44) the male end of the first elongated member within the female end of the second elongated member (Fig. 2-4); and **Regarding Claim(s) 9,12,13 and 18**, a guide wire for use in a medical procedure, comprising: a first elongated member having an extremity and a male end (36) formed at the extremity, the first elongated member formed of a first continuous material; a second elongated member including a second extremity, the second elongated member and the female end being formed of a second continuous material; wherein the male end is permanently secured (crimping; col. 7, lines 42-44) within the female end of a second elongated member (Fig. 2-4).

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NOTE: Col. 7, lines 42-44 describes the guide wire 12 and extension wire 24 are crimped and the crimped connection maybe broken easily (col.7, lines 23-26) since the connection is made permanently secured.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 4. Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gambale et al. in view of Abrams et al. (U.S. Patent 5341818).

Gambale et al. teach a process for constructing a guidewire; comprising: providing an elongated proximal core portion including a distal extremity and having a male end (36) disposed at the distal extremity, the proximal core portion being formed from a first continuous material including stainless steel, providing a distal core portion including a proximal extremity and having a female end (26) with a predetermined depth disposed at the proximal extremity, the distal core portion and female end being formed from a second continuous material; permanently securing (crimping; col. 7, lines 42-44) the male end within the female end; and disposing the flexible body member about the distal core portion (Fig. 2-4).

Gambale et al. fail to teach the distal core portion and female end being formed from a second continuous material including a nickel-titanium alloy.

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Abrams et al. teach the distal core portion and female end being formed from a second continuous material including a nickel-titanium alloy (col. 4, lines 25-30).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilizing nickel-titanium alloy for forming the distal core portion and female end, as taught by Abrams et al. on the method of Gambale et al. so as to achieve stress-induced phase transformation.

NOTE: The rationale to modify or combine the prior art does not have to be expressly stated in the prior art; the rationale may be expressly or impliedly contained in the prior art or it may be reasoned from knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, established scientific principles, or legal precedent established by prior case law. In re Fine, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988); In re Jones, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). See also In re Kotzab, 217 F.3d 1365, 1370, 55 USPQ2d 1313, 1317 (Fed. Cir. 2000) (setting forth test for implicit teachings); In re Eli Lilly & Co., 902 F.2d 943, 14 USPQ2d 1741 (Fed. Cir. 1990) (discussion of reliance on legal precedent); In re Nilssen, 851 F.2d 1401, 1403, 7 USPQ2d 1500, 1502 (Fed. Cir. 1988) (references do not have to explicitly suggest combining teachings); Ex parte Clapp, 227 USPQ 972 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1985) (examiner must present convincing line of reasoning supporting rejection); and Ex parte Levengood, 28 USPQ2d 1300 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1993) (reliance on logic and sound scientific reasoning).

5. Claims 2,3,7,8,10,11,14,and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gambale et al. .

Gambale et al. teach the limitation except the steps of: forming hole by electrical discharge machine; laser drilling; plunge grinding; securing by soldering, welding, and gluing.

But the steps of: forming hole by electrical discharge machine; laser drilling; plunge grinding; securing by soldering, welding, gluing are well known in the art and it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ the

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above well known method on the process of Gambale et al. so as to manufacture more flexible guidewire.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 9/12/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. See the new Office action.

Regarding applicant's arguments:

- (A) That the Gambale et al. does not teach permanently securing the male end and the female end. But Gambale et al. clearly teach the connection is crimped (col.7, lines 42-44) which is permanently secure so the connection maybe easily broken. Gambale et al. further describes in col. 7, lines 11-14, 'It has been found that a connection can be made quickly and easily. It maintains sufficient tensile strength of the order of about one or two pounds force so as not to come apart during use."
- (B) Objective reason has not been presented to modify Gambale et al. in view of Abrams et al. . Gambale et al. is not concerned with achieving "stress-induced phase transformation"

But the rationale to modify or combine the prior art **does not have to be** expressly stated in the prior art; the rationale may be expressly or impliedly contained in the prior art or it may be reasoned from knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, established scientific principles, or legal precedent established by prior case law. In re Fine, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988); In re Jones, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). See also In re Kotzab, 217 F.3d 1365, 1370, 55 USPQ2d 1313, 1317 (Fed. Cir. 2000) (setting forth test for implicit teachings); In re Eli Lilly & Co., 902 F.2d 943, 14 USPQ2d 1741 (Fed. Cir. 1990) (discussion of reliance on legal precedent); In re Nilssen, 851 F.2d 1401, 1403, 7 USPQ2d 1500, 1502 (Fed. Cir. 1988) (references do not have to explicitly suggest combining teachings); Ex parte Clapp, 227 USPQ 972 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1985) (examiner must present convincing line of reasoning supporting rejection); and Ex parte Levengood, 28 USPQ2d 1300 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1993) (reliance on logic and sound scientific reasoning).

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(C) Abrams et al. does not teach the distal core portion and female end being formed from a second continuous material. But the Abrams et al. teach the utilizing superelastic material such as Ni-Ti type alloys on the portions of guiding members (col.4, lines 25-30; col. 4, lines 54-58), and this teaching is well known in the art.

Conclusion

2. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JOHN C. HONG whose telephone number is 571-272-4529. The examiner can normally be reached on HPH.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, DAVID BRYANT can be reached on 571-272-4526. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Jh November 18, 2006

EXHIBIT E

Electronic Acl	Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt		
EFS ID:	1547132		
Application Number:	10650603		
International Application Number:			
Confirmation Number:	8329		
Title of Invention:	Wire joint and method		
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	David H. Burkett		
Customer Number:	24201		
Filer:	John Vincent Hanley/Kerry Tuszynski		
Filer Authorized By:	John Vincent Hanley		
Attorney Docket Number:	ACS 65356 (1747D)		
Receipt Date:	27-FEB-2007		
Filing Date:	28-AUG-2003		
Time Stamp:	12:51:07		
Application Type:	Utility		

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes
Payment was successfully received in RAM	\$ 500
RAM confirmation Number	1866
Deposit Account	

File Listing:

Document Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
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		1		1	
2	Fee Worksheet (PTO-06)	fee-info.pdf	8134	no	2
Information:					
Warnings:				<u> </u>	
1	Notice of Appeal Filed	ACSG65356_NoticeofAppeal .pdf	36805	no	1

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.



The USPTO has received your submission at 12:51:07 Eastern Time on 27-FEB-2007.

\$ 500 fee paid by e-Filer via RAM with Confirmation Number: 1866.

eFiled Application Information	
EFS ID	1547132
Application Number	10650603
Confirmation Number	8329
Title	Wire joint and method
First Named Inventor	David H. Burkett
Customer Number or Correspondence Address	24201
Filed By	John Vincent Hanley/Kerry Tuszynski
Attorney Docket Number	ACS 65356 (1747D)
Filing Date	28-AUG-2003
Receipt Date	27-FEB-2007
Application Type	Utility

Application Details

Submitted Files	Page Count	Document Description	File Size	Warnings
ACSG65356_NoticeofAppeal.pdf	1	Notice of Appeal Filed	36805 bytes	♦ PASS
fee-info.pdf	2	Fee Worksheet (PTO-06)	8134 bytes	PASS

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53 (b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

If you need help:

- Call the Patent Electronic Business Center at (866) 217-9197 (toll free) or e-mail <u>EBC@uspto.gov</u> for specific questions about Patent e-Filing.
- Send general questions about USPTO programs to the USPTO Contact Center (UCC).
- If you experience technical difficulties or problems with this application, please report them via e-mail to <u>Electronic</u> Business Support or call 1 800-786-9199.

Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal					
Application Number:	10650603				
Filing Date:	28-7	28-Aug-2003			
Title of Invention:	Wire joint and method				
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	David H. Burkett				
Filer:	Joh	nn Vincent Hanley	/Kerry Tuszyns	ki	
Attorney Docket Number:	AC	S 65356 (1747D)			
Filed as Large Entity			<u></u>		
Utility Filing Fees					
Description		Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
Basic Filing:					
Pages:					
Claims:					
Miscellaneous-Filing:					
Petition:					
Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:					
Notice of appeal		1401	1	500	500
Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:					
Extension-of-Time:					

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)			
Miscellaneous:							
	Total in USD (\$)		500				

NOTICE OF APPEAL FROM THE PRIMARY EXAMINER TO THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES (Large Entity)

Docket No. ACSG 65356

THE BOARD C	THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES (Large Entity) ACSG 65356					
In Re Application Of: David H. Burkett						
Application No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Customer No.	Group Art Unit	Confirmation No.	
10/650,603	8/28/2003	John C. Hong	24201	3726	8329	
	JOINT AND METH		AVA			
			Manuschiner der State der	Management of the Control of the Con		
		COMMISSIONER FOR PAT	ENTS:			
Applicant(s) hereby Examiner dated	y appeal(s) to the Bo 11/27/2006	pard of Patent Appeals and Inte finally rejecting Claim(s) 1-1		ı the decision of	the Primary	
The fee for this No	tice of Appeal is:	\$500.00				
☐ A check in the	he amount of the fee	e is enclosed.				
The Director	r has already been a	authorized to charge fees in this	s application to	a Deposit Accou	unt.	
☑ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-2425						
☑ Payment by	credit card. Form P	PTO-2038 is attached.				
		is form may become public. (e credit card information and				
	/John V. Hanley/ Signature			uary 27, 2007		
John V. Hanley FULWIDER PAT' Howard Hughes C 6060 Center Drive Los Angeles, CA 9 (310) 824-5555 (310) 824-9696 fac	enter , Tenth Floor 90045		with the United as first class "Commissioner 22313-1450" [3	States Postal Services mail in an enver for Patents, P.O. B 17 CFR 1.8(a)] on	dence is being deposited be with sufficient postage lope addressed to the ox 1450, Alexandria, VA	

Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

EXHIBIT F



United States Patent and Trademark Officework of Angelics

5N AXA

ON BOX BOX 1450
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ADDRESS: COMMISSIONER FO

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
10/650,603	08/28/2003	08/28/2003 David H. Burkett		8329	
24201 7590 11/05/2007 FULWIDER PATTON LLP HOWARD HUGHES CENTER			EXAMINER		
			HONG,	HONG, JOHN C	
6060 CENTER DRIVE, TENTH FLOOR LOS ANGELES, CA 90045					
,			3726		
			*		
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
			11/05/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)				
Nation of Abandanas	10/650,603	BURKETT, DAVID H.				
Notice of Abandonment	Examiner	Art Unit				
	JOHN C. HONG	3726				
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address						
This application is abandoned in view of:						
 Applicant's failure to timely file a proper reply to the Office letter mailed on <u>27 February 2007</u>. A reply was received on (with a Certificate of Mailing or Transmission dated), which is after the expiration of the period for reply (including a total extension of time of month(s)) which expired on 						
(b) A proposed reply was received on, but it does						
(A proper reply under 37 CFR 1.113 to a final rejection consists only of: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114).						
(c) A reply was received on but it does not constitute a proper reply, or a bona fide attempt at a proper reply, to the non-final rejection. See 37 CFR 1.85(a) and 1.111. (See explanation in box 7 below).						
(d) ⊠ No reply has been received.						
2. Applicant's failure to timely pay the required issue fee and publication fee, if applicable, within the statutory period of three months from the mailing date of the Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85).						
(a) The issue fee and publication fee, if applicable, was received on (with a Certificate of Mailing or Transmission dated), which is after the expiration of the statutory period for payment of the issue fee (and publication fee) set in the Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85).						
(b) The submitted fee of \$ is insufficient. A balance of \$ is due.						
The issue fee required by 37 CFR 1.18 is \$ The publication fee, if required by 37 CFR 1.18(d), is \$						
(c) \square The issue fee and publication fee, if applicable, has r	not been received.					
3. Applicant's failure to timely file corrected drawings as required by, and within the three-month period set in, the Notice of Allowability (PTO-37).						
(a) Proposed corrected drawings were received on (with a Certificate of Mailing or Transmission dated), which is after the expiration of the period for reply.						
(b) ☐ No corrected drawings have been received.						
4. The letter of express abandonment which is signed by the attorney or agent of record, the assignee of the entire interest, or all of the applicants.						
5. The letter of express abandonment which is signed by an attorney or agent (acting in a representative capacity under 37 CFR 1.34(a)) upon the filing of a continuing application.						
6. The decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interference rendered on and because the period for seeking court review of the decision has expired and there are no allowed claims.						
7. The reason(s) below:						
,						
		A				
		THE				
		JOHN C HONG				
		Primary Examiner				
Petitions to revive under 37 CED 4 437/a) as /b) assessment to with the	leggy the helding of about decrease to the C	Art Unit: 3726				
Petitions to revive under 37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b), or requests to withdraw the holding of abandonment under 37 CFR 1.181, should be promptly filed to minimize any negative effects on patent term.						
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office PTOL-1432 (Rev. 04-01) Notice	of Abandonment	Part of Paper No. 20071031				